3358 Davidsonville Road • Davidsonville, MD 21035 • (410) 922-3426

February 4, 2021

To: House Economic Matters Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: Support of HB 569 - Electricity - Net Energy Metering - Limit

On behalf of our member families, I submit this written testimony in support of HB 569, legislation that increases the state's net metering cap from 1,500 megawatts to 3,000 megawatts.

By increasing the net metering cap, this allows more opportunities for small-scale electric generating to exist. Projects like rooftop solar, on-farm solar, community solar and anaerobic manure digestion. The state has an in-state solar carveout of 14.5% of the energy used in Maryland. This far exceeds 1,500-megawatt net metering cap. Therefore, if not raised, the state would be forced to install large-scale commercial solar to meet the 14.5% carveout.

MFB Policy: We support the use of on-farm wind and solar energy production to provide electric energy for the farm and to be sold to the energy grid.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS HB 569 AND ENCOURAGES A FAVORABLE REPORT.

Colby Ferguson

Director of Government Relations

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